

DIARY LOVES

Glimpses into the intimate secrets of girls in love

In this issue—

**BIG CITY
BLUES**

TOO FAST

**STOLEN
KISSES**

**THE BRIDE
WORE BLACK**





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IN
1

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- 5 CARRYALL CASE

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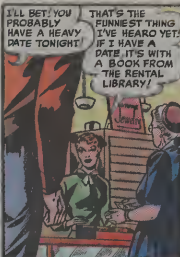
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BIG CITY BLUES

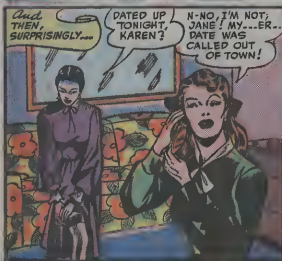
HOW DESPERATELY I WANTED COMPANIONSHIP! HOW EAGER I WAS TO FIND A LOVE OF MY OWN! YET, I HAD BUT TWO ALTERNATIVES WHEN I CAME TO THE CITY FROM THE SIMPLE FARM LIFE I HAD KNOWN! I COULD SPEND THE EVENINGS IN HEARTBREAKING SOLITUDE, OR I COULD JOIN THE FALSE HILARITY OF THE "FAST" CROWDS THAT DEMANDED TOO SHAMEFUL A PRICE FOR THEIR "FRIENDSHIP"!

...and since Mom died, she farm is so bearably lovely. My new job in Radcliffe's department store is exciting and I'm bound to find plenty of friends here in Chicago!





HARRY WAS ABOUT THE ONLY PERSON WHO HAD PAID ANY ATTENTION TO ME! BUT THOUGH I FOUND HIM IMMENSELY LIKEABLE, I COULDN'T HELP TREATING HIM LIKE A LITTLE BROTHER...



And there it was! My first thrilling invitation!

I've been saving this green print for something like this! Can't tell! Maybe my "certain someone" will be there!

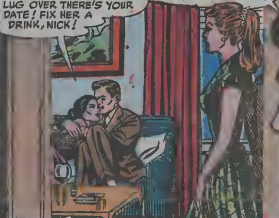


But as I walked into Jane's stuffy apartment...

Hi, honey! That handsome lug over there's your date! Fix her a drink, Nick!

It'll be a pleasure!

Whee-whee-oo! What a number!



What'll it be, sugar?

Well, I...I don't usually care for...anything!



Hey-hey! We're gonna break you of that silly habit right now!

I can't be a bad sport if I'm going to make friends! But...I didn't expect this!



Now drain that down and Uncle Nicky will fix you another one! Uncle Nicky thinks you're awful cute!

Please! Please don't!



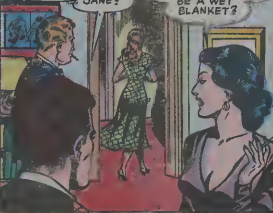
Aw, relax, baby! Came here to have a good time, didn't you?

You let me go!



Well, I'll be! Where'd you pick up that stuck-up goody-goody, Jane?

Oh, I met her at the store! How did I know she'd be a wet blanket?



SICK WITH HUMILIATION, I RETURNED TO MY ROUTINE OF WORKING ALL DAY... AND WISHING HALF THE NIGHT!

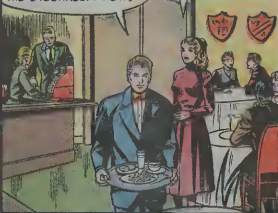
JANE WON'T EVEN SPEAK TO ME! BUT I'D RATHER BE LONELY THAN LOSE MY SELF RESPECT!

HI! WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS TABLE?



DON'T GET TO SEE MUCH OF YOU ANYMORE! THEY'VE GOT ME WORKING INSIDE THE STOCKROOM NOW!

I SORT OF MISSED YOU, HARRY!



REALLY? YOU REALLY MISSED ME?

UH-HUH! I TOLD YOU YOU'RE ABOUT THE ONLY PERSON I'VE GOT TO CHAT WITH! AND YOU'RE ALWAYS SMILING SO YOU CHEER ME UP!

WELL, GOSH, IF IT'S CHEERING UP YOU WANT, I'D BE GLAD TO SMILE AT YOU ALL EVENING OVER A DINNER TABLE.

OH, BE SERIOUS, HARRY! YOU'RE MUCH TOO...



I DISMISSED HARRY'S BOYISH ATTEMPT AT MAKING A DATE LIGHTLY! FOR MY EYES HAD BEEN CAPTIVATED BY A CAPPER, HANDSOME MAN!

MM! WHO'S THAT?

I THOUGHT EVERYBODY KNEW MR. RAYBURN! HE'S ONE OF THE STORE'S TOP EXECUTIVES! HE'D BE EATING AT THE RITZ IF IT WASN'T FOR STORE POLICY!

SOMETHING ABOUT DAVID RAYBURN ATTRACTED ME IRRESISTIBLY! IT WAS A WILD CHANCE, AN IMPULSIVE GESTURE! BUT...

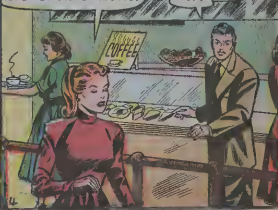
BUT I'D BE GLAD TO GET IT FOR YOU KAREN!

GOSH, I... I JUST KNOW I'LL WANT ANOTHER CUP OF COFFEE! AH-AH! STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!



OH, DEAR! I GUESS I'D BETTER GO TO THE END OF THE LINE! AND I ONLY HAVE TEN MORE MINUTES!

NONSENSE! THE AGE OF CHIVALRY IS NOT DEAD! STEP RIGHT UP!



My
PLAN WAS
FOR
DAVID
RAYBURN
TO
NOTICE ME,
AND THE
LONG
INTERESTED
LOOK HE
GAVE ME,
SENT MY
HOPES
SOARING!
LATER
THAT
DAY...

THESE ARE GENUINE
RUBIES, OF COURSE
AREN'T THEY, MISS?



HELLO! I'M GOING TO HAVE
TO PROMOTE THE PERSON
WHO PUT A GEM LIKE YOU
BEHIND A JEWELRY COUNTER!
IT'S GOOD
PLANNING!



YOU'RE
BEING
VERY
KIND!

OH-OH! CLOSING
TIME! I EXPECT
YOU'RE IN A RUSH,
SO I WON'T
HOLD YOU UP!

NO...NO,
I'M NOT!
I MEAN...
I DON'T
HAVE ANY
SPECIAL
REASON TO
HURRY!



NOW, THERE'S A
COINCIDENCE! I DON'T
EITHER! BUT IF WE
WERE BOTH DYING
FOR A STEAK...AND
WE DECIDED TO GO
TRACK ONE DOWN
TOGETHER...

THEN WE...
WOULD BE IN
A HURRY.
WOULDN'T WE?



It
HAPPENED
ALMOST
TOO FAST
TO BE
TRUE!
EXCITED,
MY HEART
BEATING
FAST AND
MY MIND
IN A WHIRL,
I DID MY
BEST TO
MAKE
DAVID
LIKE ME!

YOU KNOW, I COULD HAVE
GUESSED YOU CAME FROM
THE FARM! THAT WHOLESOME,
PEACHES-AND-CREAM LOOK
IS UNMISTAKEABLE!

HE'S SO
FLATTERING!
THIS MAY BE
THE BEGIN-
NING OF MY
BIG ROMANCE!

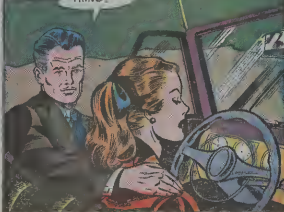


And LATER...
LET'S STOP HERE
AND LOOK AT THE
LAKE!

YES, IT'S...LOVELY,
ISN'T IT? MOONLIGHT
ON THE WATER...



MOONLIGHT, A ROMANTIC SCENE,
A PRETTY GIRL! SO A MAN
DOES THE LOGICAL
THING!



OH, I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE LET
HIM KISS
ME,
BUT
THERE WAS
THAT
LONELINESS
IN MY
HEART
THAT
MADE ME
RESPOND
EAGERLY
AS OAVID'S
LIPS
CLOSED
OVER MINE!



YOU KNOW THE MINUTE I SAW YOU I WONDERED
WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO DO THAT!

AND NOW
YOU KNOW!



I WANT TO
KNOW MORE,
KAREN! THERE'LL
BE MORE KISSES
LIKE THAT ONE!

I...I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT!
THIS MORNING
WE WERE
TOTAL
STRANGERS!



NOT ANY MORE,
HONEY! EXCEPT
AT THE STORE,
OF COURSE!
THIS SORT OF
THING DOESN'T
DO AN EXECUTIVE
ANY GOOD, IF IT
GETS AROUND!

THIS "SORT
OF THING"?



YES, YOU KNOW... PEGGY'S A
DEPARTMENT MANAGER AT
THE STORE, AND WHEN SHE
GETS BACK FROM HER NEW
YORK BUYING TRIP, WE'LL
HAVE TO BE MORE
DISCREET!



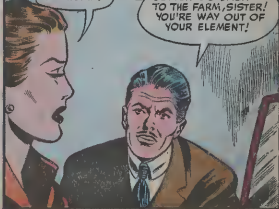
I...DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
WHO'S PEGGY?

MY WIFE, SILLY! NOW,
DON'T TELL ME YOU
DIDN'T KNOW THAT!



APPARENTLY I HAVE...
A LOT TO LEARN!
PLEASE TAKE
ME HOME!

WELL, IF THAT'S THE WAY
YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, ALL
RIGHT! BUT YOU'D
BETTER GO BACK
TO THE FARM, SISTER!
YOU'RE WAY OUT OF
YOUR ELEMENT!



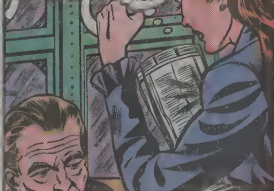
ASHAMED AND DISILLUSIONED, I SPENT THE REST OF THE NIGHT IN BITTER RECRIMINATION!

DAVID RAYBURN WAS RIGHT! I **DON'T** BELONG HERE! OH, WHY CAN'T THERE BE SOMEONE DECENT AND HONORABLE WHO'S AS LONESOME AS I AM?



And AS IF IN ANSWER TO MY PRAYERS THE NEXT EVENING...

THIS AD IN THE PERSONALS COLUMN! IT'S AS THOUGH IT WAS MEANT FOR ME!



PERSONAL COLUMN

YOUNG MAN, 23, employed by day, agriculture student evenings, formerly from small Michigan town. Like to meet nice girl, also lonely. Write, enclose photo, please. Object: Friendship. Box 587.

Lady, 43, will share three room apart, nice, well-

That EVENING...

MAYBE THIS IS FOOLISH BUT THE AD SOUNDS SO SINCERE! AND HE MIGHT BE THE MAN I WANT TO MEET!



I MAILED THE LETTER AND MY ANTICIPATION MADE THE NEXT DAY AN EXCITING ONE!

HI, KAREN! YOU'RE LOOKING MIGHTY CHIPPER TODAY!

MAYBE I HAVE A GOOD REASON, HARRY!



And THAT EVENING...

THANK YOU, MISS!

PLEASE MEET ME WAITING ROOM GARVEY'S RESTAURANT. I'LL KNOW BY YOUR PHOTO. LONELY!!

UNION WIRE

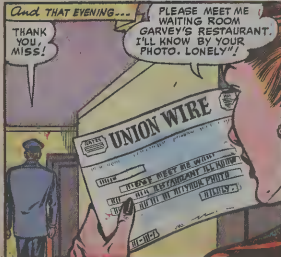
TO: MISS KAREN RAYBURN

FROM: DAVID RAYBURN

RE: YOUR PHOTO

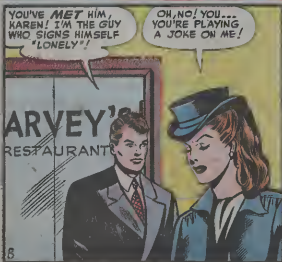
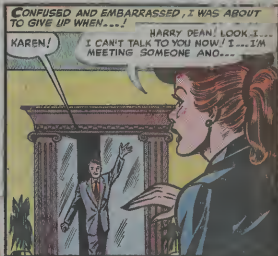
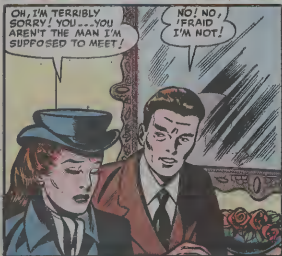
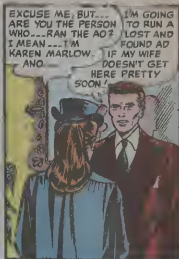
REPLY BY RETURN PHOTO

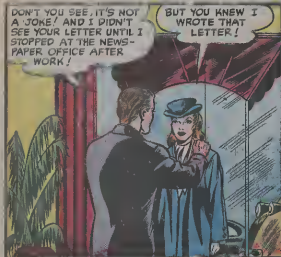
URGENT



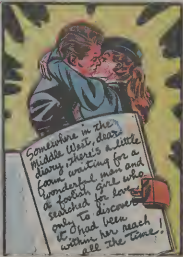
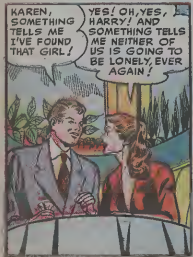
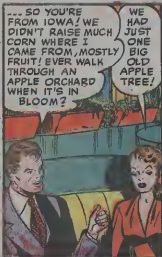
HE ANSWERED! HE MUST HAVE LIKED MY SNAPSHOT AND THE LETTER! GOSH, I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET HIM!



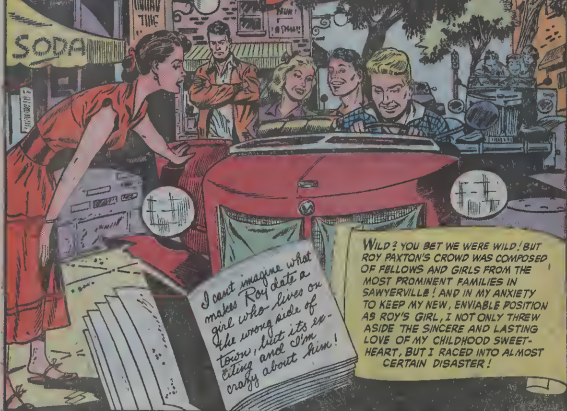




RELUCTANTLY, I JOINED HARRY AT ONE OF THE TABLES! AND AFTER WE HAD TALKED A WHILE...



TOO FAST



WILD? YOU BET WE WERE WILD! BUT ROY PAXTON'S CROWD WAS COMPOSED OF FELLOWS AND GIRLS FROM THE MOST PROMINENT FAMILIES IN SAWYERVILLE! AND IN MY ANXIETY TO KEEP MY NEW, ENVIABLE POSITION AS ROY'S GIRL, I NOT ONLY THREW ASIDE THE SINCERE AND LASTING LOVE OF MY CHILDHOOD SWEET-HEART, BUT I RACED INTO ALMOST CERTAIN DISASTER!

OF COURSE DALE AGARD, THE BOY NEXT DOOR, DIDN'T THINK MUCH OF THE IDEA!

GOING OVER TO POP FRAZER'S AGAIN, I SUPPOSE!

THERE'S NO LAW AGAINST HAVING A COKE WITH YOUR FRIENDS, IS THERE?

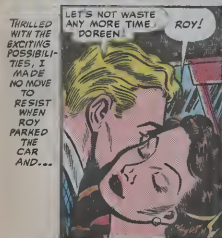
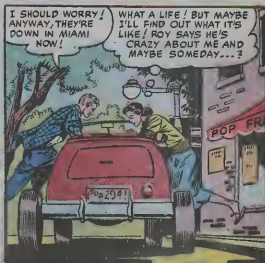
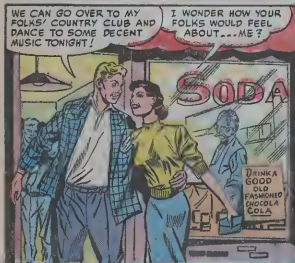
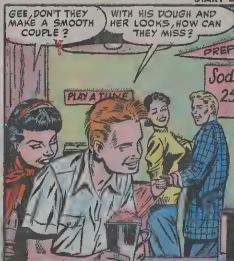


DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU CALL "FRIENDS" THAT RECKLESS BUNCH ISN'T FOR YOU DOREEN! GOSH I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU AND I ...

OH, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, DON'T BRING UP OUR CHILDHOOD, DALE! I'VE GROWN UP!



YES, I WAS GROWN UP! AND IF I WAS THE QUEEN OF MY NEW "CROWD", ROY PAXTON WAS THE UNDISPUTED KING!



ROY'S
KISSES
HAD ME
IN
SEVENTH
HEAVEN!
NO
WONDER
I WAS
RESENT-
FUL WHEN
DALE
AND MY
MOTHER
GAVE
ME
THEIR
ADVICE!

DOREEN, YOU
AREN'T
GOING OUT
WITH THAT
RECKLESS
CROWD
AGAIN!

SHE WON'T
LISTEN TO
ME, MRS.
WILLIS!



DON'T YOU GET IT, DOREEN?
THEY'RE LOADED WITH MONEY
AND THEY'RE BORED!
THEY'LL DO ANYTHING
FOR A THRILL AND...
SOMETIMES I
WORRY ABOUT
YOU!

OH,
HONESTLY!



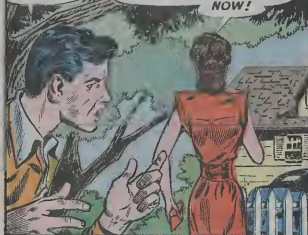
I DO! I VE
LOVED YOU
EVER SINCE WE
WERE KIDS...AND
IT KILLS ME TO SEE
YOU WITH THAT
TIN-HORN PLAY
BOY!

I'LL
THANK
YOU NOT
TO TALK
THAT
WAY
ABOUT
MY FRIENDS!



AW, DOREEN,
I ONLY...

SAVE YOUR BREATH! I'M MEETING
ROY AT POP'S AND I'M LATE
NOW!



THIS PLACE IS GETTING
AWFULLY DULL!



HEY, ROY! YOU'RE THE GUY
WITH THE IDEAS! LET'S
DREAM UP A NEW
KICK!

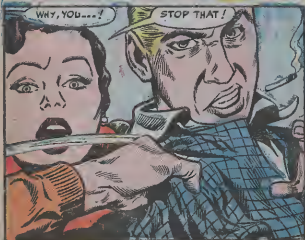
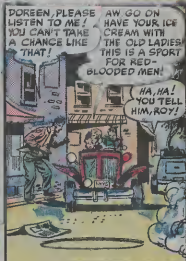
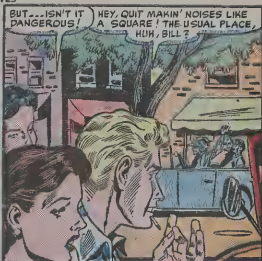
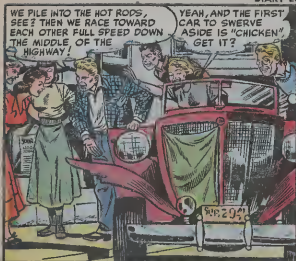
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH
THE OLD ONE?
"CHICKEN!"

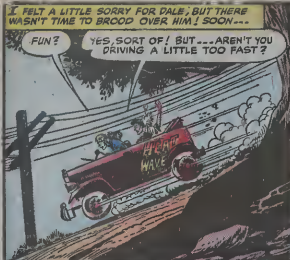


I'LL BET YOU'VE NEVER
PLAYED "CHICKEN", BABY!
C'MON, YOU'VE GOT A BIG
THRILL COMING!

SOUNDS LIKE
FUN! I'M
GAME!



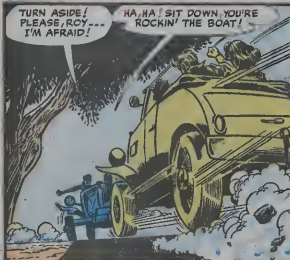




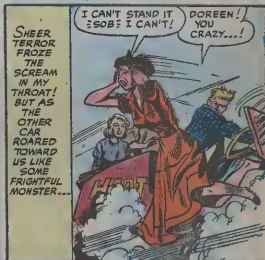
I FELT A LITTLE SORRY FOR DALE, BUT THERE WASN'T TIME TO BROOD OVER HIM! SOON...
FUN?
YES, SORT OF! BUT...AREN'T YOU DRIVING A LITTLE TOO FAST?



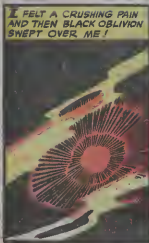
HUH! I HAVEN'T EVEN GOT HER DOWN TO THE FLOORBOARD YET! HEY, LOOK! THERE'S BILL'S CAR!
ROY, SLOW DOWN! PLEASE!



TURN ASIDE! PLEASE, ROY... I'M AFRAID!
HA, HA! SIT DOWN, YOU'RE ROCKIN' THE BOAT!



SHEER TERROR FROZE THE SCREAM IN MY THROAT! BUT AS THE OTHER CAR ROARED TOWARD US LIKE SOME FRIGHTFUL MONSTER...
I CAN'T STAND IT! SOB! I CAN'T!
DOREEN! YOU CRAZY...!



I FELT A CRUSHING PAIN AND THEN BLACK OBIVION SWEEP OVER ME!



WHEN I AWOK...
MOTHER! WHERE AM I? WHAT...
HUSH, DEAR! YOU WERE VERY LUCKY, EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!



ROY! WHAT ABOUT ROY?
NOTHING! BUT HE WAS TOO FRIGHTENED TO STOP WHEN YOU LEAPED OUT OF THE CAR! HE DIDN'T EVEN REPORT THE ACCIDENT!

DIARY LOVES



IF DALE HADN'T FOLLOWED YOU AND RUSHED YOU TO THE HOSPITAL YOU...YOU WOULDN'T BE ALIVE NOW, CHILD!

DALE FOLLOWED ME! AND AFTER THE WAY I TREATED HIM...!



HAS...ROY BEEN HERE... ASKING ABOUT ME?

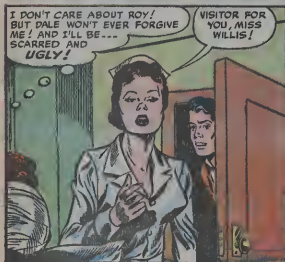
NO. HIS FAMILY WHISKED HIM OUT OF TOWN! AFRAID OF BAD PUBLICITY, I GUESS!

CONFUSED, HURT, I WAS YET TO HEAR THE WORST! I SUPPOSE THE NURSE THOUGHT ME ASLEEP, BUT...



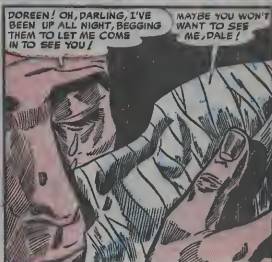
POOR KID! I'M TOLD SHE WAS A REAL BEAUTY! I ONLY HOPE SHE WON'T BE SHOCKED WHEN THOSE BANDAGES COME OFF!

I'VE LOST EVERYTHING! 1908! EVERYTHING!



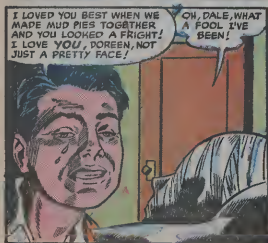
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ROY! BUT DALE WON'T EVER FORGIVE ME! AND I'LL BE... SCARRED AND UGLY!

VISITOR FOR YOU, MISS WILLIS!



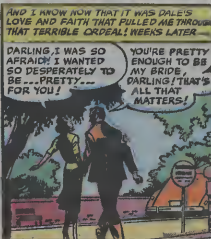
DOREEN! OH, DARLING, I'VE BEEN UP ALL NIGHT, BEGGING THEM TO LET ME COME IN TO SEE YOU!

MAYBE YOU WON'T WANT TO SEE ME, DALE!



I LOVED YOU BEST WHEN WE MADE MUD PIES TOGETHER AND YOU LOOKED A FRIGHT! I LOVE YOU, DOREEN, NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!

OH, DALE, WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!



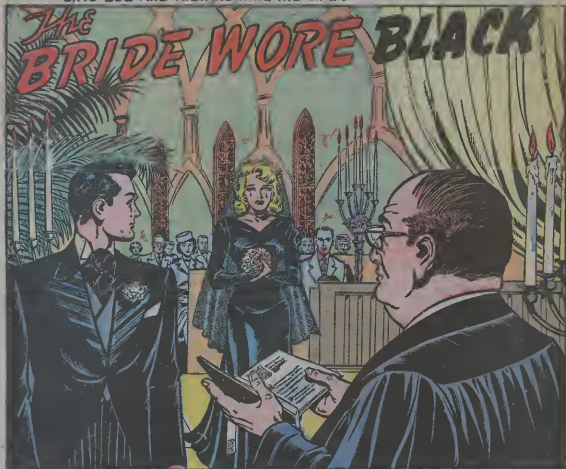
AND I KNOW NOW THAT IT WAS DALE'S LOVE AND FAITH THAT PULLED ME THROUGH THAT TERRIBLE ORDEAL! WEEKS LATER...

DARLING, I WAS SO AFRAID! I WANTED SO DESPERATELY TO BE...PRETTY... FOR YOU!

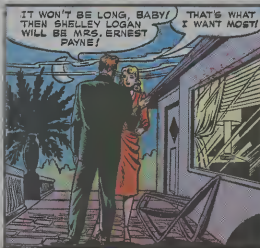
YOU'RE PRETTY ENOUGH TO BE MY BRIDE, DARLING! THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!

Dear Diary - A few minor scars remain, to remind me of my tragic mistake! But no scar was left on my heart, for I'm gloriously happy and in love with the man I'm going to marry tomorrow!

A BRIDE IN BLACK? THAT WAS SIMPLY THE WAY I FELT AS I PREPARED FOR MY MARRIAGE TO BOB GARFIELD! FOR MY LOVE BELONGED TO A MAN WHO WAS GONE, MY HEART WAS IN MOURNING, AND MY MIND WAS SHROUDED IN GLOOM! WAS IT FAIR TO FOIST SUCH BLEAKNESS ONTO BOB AND RISK RUINING HIS LIFE?



THE FIRST PART OF MY STORY ISN'T PRETTY GO. I'LL SPARE YOU THE SORDID DETAILS! ERNIE PAYNE AND I WERE ATTENDING A PARTY GIVEN BY FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY!



IT WON'T BE LONG, BABY! THEN SHELLEY LOGAN WILL BE MRS. ERNEST PAYNE!

THAT'S WHAT I WANT MOST!



ERNIE, DARLING, I'M SO HAPPY!

DIARY LOVES

GUESS WE
SHOULD GO
IN NOW, HUH

YES, AND WE SHOULD
START FOR HOME SOON,
TOO! A LOT OF THE
GUESTS HAVE LEFT
AND IT'S LATE!

I WAS IN
ECSTASY
OVER MY
FORTHCOMING
MARRIAGE
AND
THOUGHT
MYSELF
MADLY IN
LOVE WITH
ERNIE! *
PEOPLE HAD
TRIED TO
WARN ME
THAT
"HE WAS A
ROWDY AND
RECKLESS
BUT I *
REFUSED
TO LISTEN!
ON OUR WAY
HOME...

CAN'T YOU TAKE IT
A LITTLE SLOWER,
ERNIE?

ARE YOU A WORRY-
WART? SCARED,
SWEETHEART?

NOT
REALLY!

THAT'S BETTER! I DON'T
WANT A WIFE WHO'LL
BE A NAMBY-PAMBY!

I GOT HOME SAFELY AND HE KISSED ME GOOD-NIGHT! I WENT STRAIGHT TO BED! AND WAS SLEEPING SOUNDLY WHEN THE TELEPHONE AWAKENED ME WITH A START!

WHO COULD BE CALLING
AT THIS HOUR?

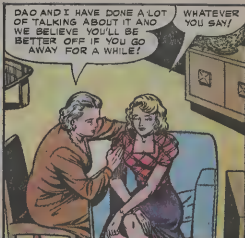
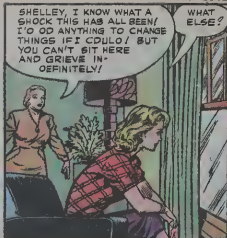
AN ACCIDENT?...ERNIE?...
NO, I DON'T BELIEVE
IT!

I DIDN'T WRITE IN MY DIARY
FOR TWO WEEKS! THEN...

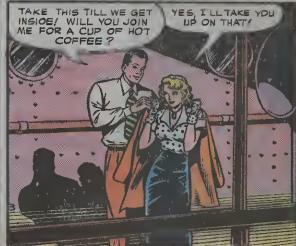
My wedding day
is past! My
life went, too! I
feel as if I'm
floating around
in a vacuum!

WHY DID IT HAVE TO HAPPEN
LIKE THIS?

THE ACCIDENT WAS FATAL! MY MOTHER AND DAO HAO NOT APPROVED OF THE MATCH FROM THE FIRST BUT NO PEOPLE COULD HAVE BEEN MORE KIND OR CONSIDERATE! A MONTH OR MORE LATER...



SOON I WAS ON A SHIP AND HEADED OUT TO SEA! I SHOULD HAVE MADE SOME EFFORT TO HELP MYSELF BUT INSTEAD...





WHAT'S YOUR DESTINATION?

I HAVE NONE! I JUST GO WHERE THE BOAT GOES!



ME, TOO! I'M TAKING THIS CRUISE FOR THE RIDE AND A REST! MAYBE WE CAN MAKE SOMETHING OF IT TOGETHER!

WE CAN TRY!

SOME-TIMES IT TAKES A STRANGER TO SHAKE A PERSON OUT OF SELF-PITY! BOB GARFIELD DID JUST THAT FOR ME! HE'D TAKEN ENOUGH OF A BEATING WITHOUT MY BURNING HIM WITH TROUBLES, TOO!

I WAS ON THE FIGHTING FRONT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND DISCHARGED FOR A SLIGHT DISABILITY! I'M FINE NOW EXCEPT THAT THE SILENCE OF A LAW OFFICE DRIVES ME SLIGHTLY NUTS!

IS THAT WHY YOU LIKE THE STORM? BECAUSE IT'S NOISY?

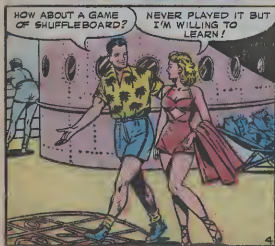
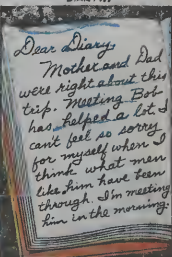


I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED!

I LIKE IT, TOO!

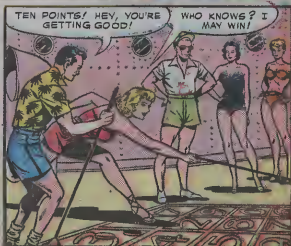


THAT NIGHT, I WROTE IN MY DIARY...



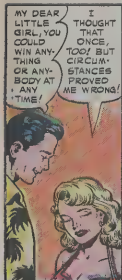
HOW ABOUT A GAME OF SHUFFLEBOARD?

NEVER PLAYED IT BUT I'M WILLING TO LEARN!



TEN POINTS! HEY, YOU'RE GETTING GOOD!

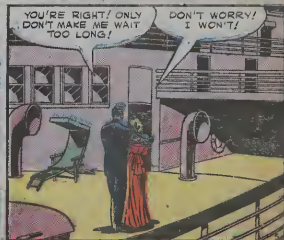
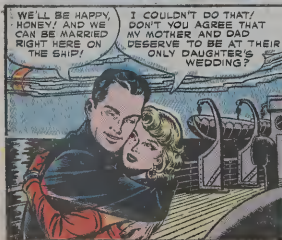
WHO KNOWS? I MAY WIN!



ERNIE'S MEMORY WAS EATING INTO MY MIND AGAIN! I HAD LOST HIM THROUGH NO FAULT OF MY OWN! BUT AS THE TRIP CON- TINUED, I FOUND A NEW KIND OF CONTENT- MENT WITH BOB! THEN ONE NIGHT...



BOB DIDN'T SUSPECT. I'M SURE, HOW MUCH HE HAD DONE TO MAKE ME FORGET! AND WHEN HE KISSED ME, THE WORLD SEEMED ALL RIGHT AGAIN AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MONTHS, I FELT AS IF I WANTED TO KEEP ON LIVING IN IT!

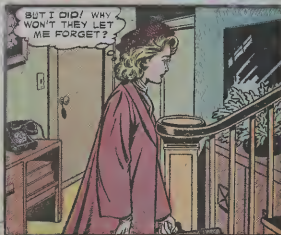
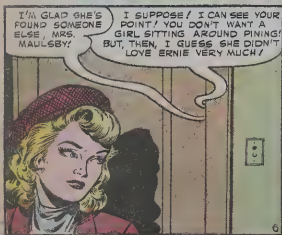
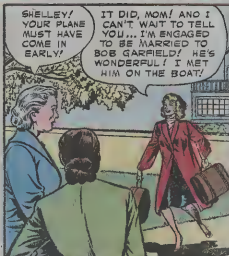




THE REMAINDER OF OUR VOYAGE WAS A ROMANTIC ADVENTURE! WE SAILED UNDER THE SOUTHERN SUNS AND PLANNED OUR FUTURE WITH FOND ENTHUSIASM! THEN, WHEN IT WAS OVER, BOB TOOK ME TO THE AIRPORT TO SEE ME STARTED ON MY WAY HOME!

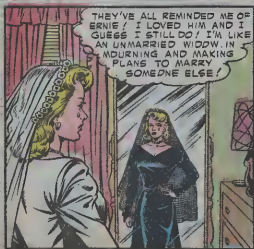
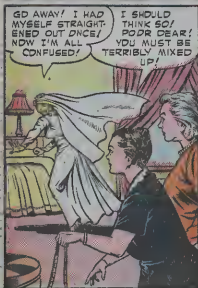
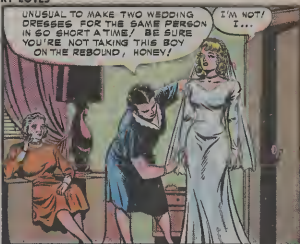


THAT GOOD-BYE SEEMED SO TEMPORARY AT THE TIME THAT I WAS NOT EVEN SAD ABOUT IT! I RAN TOWARD MY MOTHER WHO WAS TALKING TO OUR NEIGHBOR, MRS. MAULSBY!





*MOM
AND DAD
UNDERSTOOD,
BUT
OTHERS
ACTED
SHOCKED!
LIKE
THE
DRESS-
MAKER
WHO HAD
MADE MY
FIRST
WEDDING
GOWN
AND WAS
NOW
MAKING
MY
SECONO!*

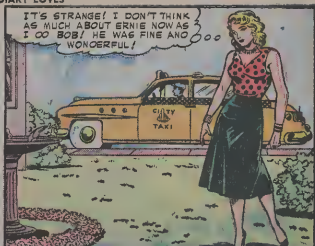


I COULDN'T
GO THROUGH
WITH IT! I
WENT TO
THE PHONE
THAT
NIGHT WHEN
EVERYONE ELSE
IN THE
HOUSE WAS
ASLEEP! I
COULDN'T
PUT A BLIGHT
ON BOB'S LIFE
BECAUSE
OF
THE
BURDEN
ON
MINE!

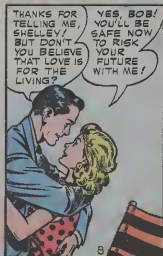




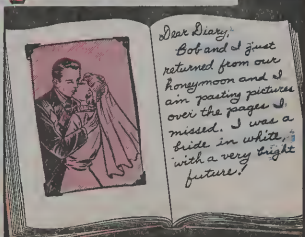
A GAIN
I WAS
LIKE A
PRISONER,
LOCKED
UP
WITH
MY
GRIEF! A
WEEK PASSED
AND I
REFUSED
TO
SEE ANY-
ONE!
AT TIMES,
I
WALKED
ALONE
ON OUR
LAWN!



I SPARED
NO
PUNCHES!
I TOLO HIM
OF MY TRAGEDY
AND HOW
HE HAD
HELPED ME
THROUGH
MY GREAT
GRIEF! I
TRIED TO
MAKE CLEAR
THE UNCER-
TAINTY I FELT
WHEN I CAME
BACK HOME
AND HOW I
DIDN'T
WANT TO DO
HIM AN
INJUSTICE!



I'LL LET MY DIARY FINISH MY STORY!



TWO SEATS ON THE AISLE

AS Sandra Fleming flung open the door to her apartment and dashed inside, she was sure that she had never been more angry in her life. "Just because I won a beauty contest and have been the center of attention," she stormed to herself, "Jeff gets jealous!"

She hurriedly undressed and got into a comfortable negligee. Naturally, being a chosen beauty, she had gone to luncheons and dinners and her pictures had been in the papers with prominent escorts. But that was publicity and nothing more. She had thought it would make Jeff proud but instead he had behaved like a spoiled child and Sandra was seething with anger. She sat down to write in her diary, which was a way of getting the fury out of her system.

Dear Diary,

Jeff and I had a fight tonight. He accused me of stepping out on him which is not true. I haven't gone with anyone else but now maybe I will, because I really don't think I'd want such a jealous man for a husband. I'm hurned up and I think, dear diary, that I have every right to be.

When Jeff called the next day to ask her for a date, she was very reserved and refused him. "Sorry," she said with formality, "but I have made previous plans. Perhaps some other time!"

"That's what I thought," came the terse reply from the receiver. "I had you figured right all along!"

Actually Sandra had no other plans. It was just her way of putting him in his place. But she didn't want to be home in the event that he should call and so she went to dinner alone and then to a theatre to see if she could get a ticket for a comedy. It might, she thought, get her out of her doldrums.

"I have two on the aisle," the ticket seller said! "They were turned back just a few minutes ago! You're lucky to get them!"

"But I can't use two," she said. "I'll take one and—"

"I'll take the other," boomed a bass voice behind her. "I'm alone; too!"

Sandra paid for her ticket and was shown to her seat. She wondered what the man looked like who had the big, deep voice but she hadn't wanted to be so bold as to turn and look. After he sat down beside her, she was able to peer out of the corner

of her eye and see that he was tall and broad shouldered and had rugged features and very masculine. She noticed, too, the slight upturn at the corners of his mouth which showed a good sense of humor. And when the play got underway, they both laughed so heartily that, without a word being spoken between them, she felt sort of friendly toward this big, burly character who was sharing her enjoyment.

They sat and talked during the intermissions and he told her his name, Hank Barlow. And when the show was over, he suggested that they have something to eat and she agreed. It gave her a sense of vengeful satisfaction to think that she really was stepping out on Jeff. "May as well have the game as the blame," she thought and went out and had a good time with Hank.

It was peculiar coincidence, after that, that she seemed to meet Hank wherever she went. And whenever Jeff called, she made an excuse, just to get even with him for his suspicions. She and Hank hit it off very well and every chance meeting ended in an exciting evening. A few of these convinced her that she had never really been in love with Jeff at all and that Hank, a happy-go-lucky character, had won her heart without half trying.

One evening she was surprised to have the doorbell ring and find both Jeff and Hank standing there. Jeff was smiling rather sheepishly and Hank looked really hard-boiled with a scowl on his face.

"Sandra," sighed Jeff, rushing to try to take her in his arms, "I had you all wrong! I thought you were going out with other men so I hired this detective to trail you and he tells me you didn't do that at all! He says you've gone out alone all the time! Can you ever forgive me?"

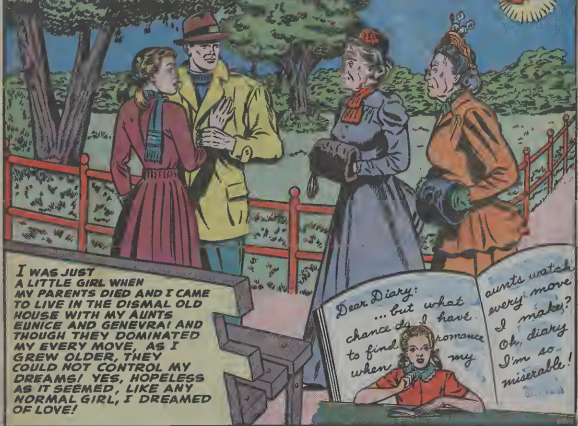
"I don't think I can," answered Sandra, being very snooty. She wanted to be angry with Hank, then, but she couldn't when she saw him grinning behind Jeff's back. "I'm sorry, Jeff," she continued, trying to be stern but with giggles gurgling up inside of her, "but any man as suspicious as you would be insufferable to live with. We'd better call it quits right now."

A few nights later, Sandra made the following entry in her diary:

Dear Diary,

I'm glad now that Jeff was jealous and hired Hank to trail me! Tomorrow I will marry the dear detective! I would never have found him if it hadn't been for those two seats on the aisle!

Stolen Kisses



I WAS JUST A LITTLE GIRL WHEN MY PARENTS DIED AND I CAME TO LIVE IN THE DISMAL OLD HOUSE WITH MY AUNTS EUNICE AND GENEVRA! AND THOUGH THEY DOMINATED MY EVERY MOVE, AS I GREW OLDER, THEY COULD NOT CONTROL MY DREAMS! YES, HOPELESS AS IT SEEMED, LIKE ANY NORMAL GIRL, I DREAMED OF LOVE!

Dear Diary:

...but what chance do I have to find romance when

aunts watch every move I make? Oh, diary I'm so miserable!

EVEN IF MY AUNTS HAD PERMITTED IT, NO BOY IN SHADY COVE WOULD HAVE DREAMED OF DATING ME! IN MY OUTMODED CLOTHES, I WAS A DISMAL THROWBACK TO THE PAST!

BUT ISN'T IT A TRIFLE...OLD-FASHIONED, AUNT EUNICE?

NONSENSE! IT'S A VERY PROPER AND BECOMING!

HMHP! NEXT THING YOU KNOW, MARILOU WILL BE WANTING SHORT SKIRTS AND FLIMSY STOCKINGS!

SOMEDAY I'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO LOVES ME! I'LL RUN AWAY WITH HIM AND I'LL NEVER COME BACK!



I WAS PERMITTED FEW FRIENDS! IN FACT, MY AUNTS JUST BARELY TOLERATED RITA SILLS, WHO CAME OVER ONE EVENING WITH EXCITING NEWS!



YOU'RE SURE THE OLD SNOOPS AREN'T AROUND? WELL LISTEN! THERE'S A **SKATING RINK** IN TOWN!

SKATING RINK?

UH-HUH, ONE OF THOSE TRAVELING ONES, WITH A CANVAS TOP AND SHOE SKATES YOU CAN RENT AND...

OH, GOSH, WOULDN'T IT BE EXCITING TO GO!



BUT I KNOW BETTER THAN TO ASK MY AUNTS! THEY WOULDN'T APPROVE OF ANYTHING THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN!

MM, IT WOULDN'T BE TOO AWFUL IF YOU TOLD THEM YOU WERE COMING TO MY HOUSE! TO SEW! THAT'S IT, WE'RE GOING TO SEW!



IT'S NO USE, RITA! I'D BE LAUGHED OUT OF THE PLACE IN THESE HORRIBLE CLOTHES!

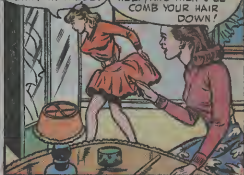
WE CAN FIX THAT AT MY HOUSE! OH, PLEASE, MARILOU! WE'D HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME!



HUNGRY FOR FUN AND COMPANIONSHIP, I NEEDED VERY LITTLE COAKING! IN A FEW MINUTES WE WERE AT RITA'S HOUSE!

AUNT EUNICE ALMOST SAID NO! OH, GOSH, RITA, I FEEL SO... FUNNY IN THESE!

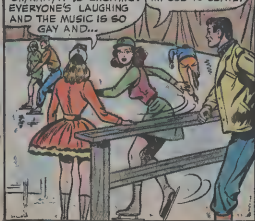
SILLY! YOU LOOK ADORABLE! HERE, A LITTLE LIPSTICK WILL HELP, AND THEN I'LL COMB YOUR HAIR DOWN!



AND BEFORE LONG...

OH, RITA, IT IS EXCITING! EVERYONE'S LAUGHING AND THE MUSIC IS SO GAY AND...

AND YOU'RE BEING ADMIRERD! THAT'S MY CUE TO LEAVE!



HELLO! LIKE TO SKATE-WALTZ OR ARE YOU GOING TO HUG THAT RAIL ALL EVENING?

I...I'D...LIKE TO SKATE-WALTZ! THAT IS, I WOULD IF I KNEW HOW!



DIARY LOVES

I COULD FEEL MY HEART POUNDING AS THE HANDSOME STRANGER TOOK MY ARM! HOW PLEASANT HE LOOKED AND HOW FRIENDLY HIS LAUGHTER SOUNDED!



UH-HUH! JUST TO TEACH YOU TO SKATE! BY THE WAY, MY NAME'S BART LONG!

BART LONG! THEN... YOU OWN THIS RINK!



THAT'S RIGHT! AND SINCE I'M THE BOSS, I GUESS I CAN SPEND THE REST OF THE EVENING WITH YOU!

HE...HE LIKES ME! I NEVER EVEN DREAMED OF ANYTHING LIKE THIS!



BUT LIKE ALL DREAMS, IT CAME TO AN END...

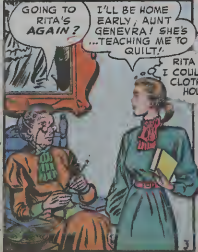
GOODNIGHT, MARILOU! I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN SOON, WON'T I?

I'LL BE BACK, BART!

I'LL FIND A WAY TO COME BACK!



AND I FOUND A WAY! IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED I TOLD A HUNDRED LIES, AND LIVED IN MORTAL TERROR OF BEING DISCOVERED! BUT I SAW BART ALMOST EVERY NIGHT!

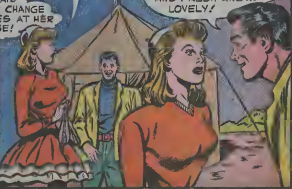


BART! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

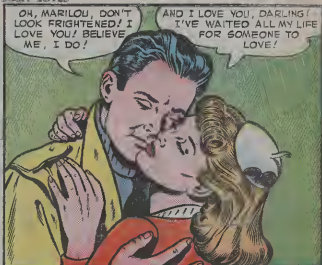
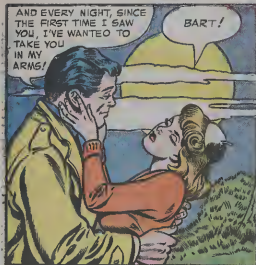
WAITING FOR YOU!

THAT'S HOW I'LL SPEND ALL MY TIME NOW, MARILOU! WAITING FOR THE MOMENT WHEN YOU ARRIVE, BREATHLESS AND FRESH AND... LOVELY!

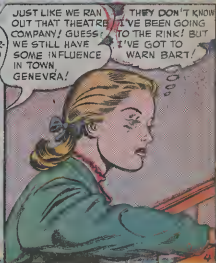
RITA SAID I COULD CHANGE CLOTHES AT HER HOUSE!



DIARY LOVES



IT WAS PAST ELEVEN BEFORE I COULD TEAR MYSELF AWAY FROM BART. I CHANGED CLOTHES AT RITA'S AND THEN, WITH MY HEART SINGING I HURRIED HOME...TO FIND MY AUNTS WAITING FOR ME!



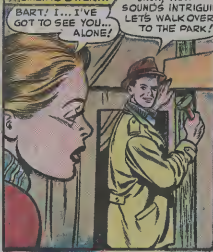
DIARY LOVES

THE NEXT EVENING...



I DON'T DARE GET CAUGHT!
BUT IF BART KNOWS WHAT
THEY'RE PLANNING, MAYBE
HE CAN STOP THEM!

MOMENTS LATER...



BART! I... I'VE
GOT TO SEE YOU...
ALONE!

UMM, THAT
SOUNDS INTRIGUING!
LET'S WALK OVER
TO THE PARK!



I'VE BEEN HOPING
YOU'D BE HERE
TONIGHT! AFTER
LAST NIGHT.

BUT YOU
DON'T
UNDERSTAND!



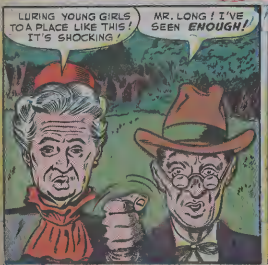
I ONLY UNDERSTAND THAT
YOU AND I WERE MEANT FOR
EACH OTHER! OH, MARILOU,
I...

THERE HE
IS, MAYOR
PERKINS!
LOOK!



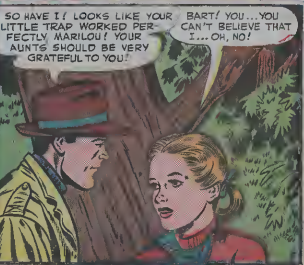
AUNT GENEVRA...
EUNICE! WHAT...!

WE TOLD YOU WHAT YOU'D FIND
IF WE FOLLOWED HER! THAT'S
WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT IF
YOU TOLERATE PLACES
LIKE HIS SKATING
RINK!



LURING YOUNG GIRLS
TO A PLACE LIKE THIS!
IT'S SHOCKING!

MR. LONG! I'VE
SEEN ENOUGH!

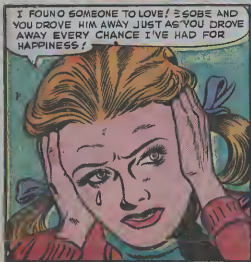
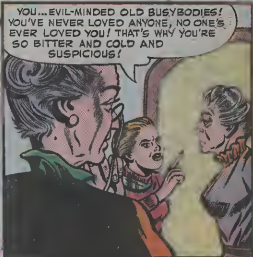


SO HAVE I! LOOKS LIKE YOUR
LITTLE TRAP WORKED PERFECTLY
MARILOU! YOUR
AUNTS SHOULD BE VERY
GRATEFUL TO YOU!

BART! YOU... YOU
CAN'T BELIEVE THAT
I... OH, NO!



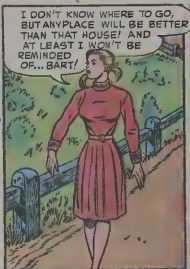
FAR INTO THE NIGHT I LISTENED TO MY SHARR TONGUED AUNTS, HURLING THREATS AND ACCUSATIONS! AND FINALLY I COULD STAND NO MORE!



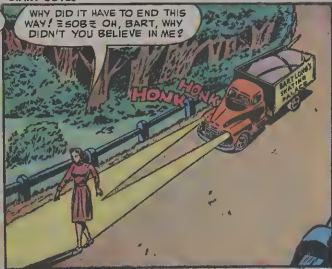
DIARY LOVES

I COULDN'T GET OUT OF THAT HATEFUL HOUSE FAST ENOUGH! AN HOUR LATER, I STUMBLED DOWN THE HIGHWAY OUTSIDE OF TOWN!

I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO, BUT ANYPLACE WILL BE BETTER THAN THAT HOUSE! AND AT LEAST I WON'T BE REMINDED OF... BART!



WHY DID IT HAVE TO END THIS WAY! SOBE OH, BART, WHY DIDN'T YOU BELIEVE IN ME?



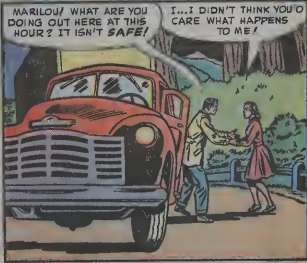
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, LADY! I NEARLY HIT YOU!

BART!



MARILOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE AT THIS HOUR? IT ISN'T SAFE!

I...I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME!



I'M RUNNING AWAY, BART... FOR THE SAME REASON YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY!

THEN...YOU WEREN'T HELPING YOUR AUNTS! YOU DID COME TO WARN ME ABOUT THEM!

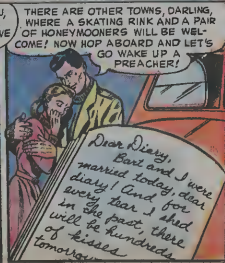


I'D SEEN THEM HURT SO MANY PEOPLE, BART! AND I LOVED YOU SO TERRIBLY...

OH, MARILOU, IF YOU CAN ONLY FORGIVE ME!



THERE ARE OTHER TOWNS, DARLING, WHERE A SKATING RINK AND A PAIR OF HONEYMOONERS WILL BE WELCOME! NOW HOP ABOARD AND LET'S GO WAKE UP A PREACHER!



Dear Diary,
Bart and I were married today, dear diary! And for every tear I shed in the past, there will be hundreds of kisses tomorrow.

YES! YOU PLAY SONG HITS INSTANTLY!

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Popular **SONG**
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only **9⁹⁸**

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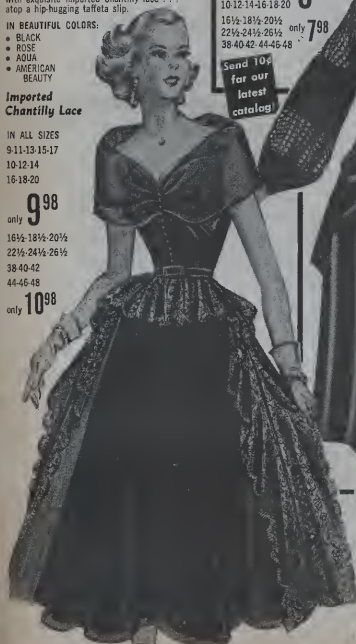
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